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To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Microsoft Settlement

The proposed Microsoft Settlement is unfortunately, far too weak and will not resolve any of the problems created by the MS monopoly.

In fact, the settlement may well act as a tool for further anticompetitive practices: for example, the provisions for disclosing technical specifications are only for commercial interests -- this would exclude many nonprofit and free software projects, especially the Samba group, which makes software critical for interoperation with MS windows.

Check out <http://samba.org> for more information on their critical work.

This is software I and many other people use every -- if MS could use the proposed settlement to deny requests for specifications (and perhaps even fight efforts at reverse-engineering under the DMCA) then this settlement would be doing real damage instead of helping to fix the MS problem.

Microsoft must be heavily restructured, or have the source code of its operating system forcibly opened. The prevalence of their software has made them unprecedentedly powerful -- this company, which has a history of ruthlessly misusing its influence, cannot be allowed to continue along its course towards total monopoly. This settlement will allow MS to do exactly that. I hope for all of our sake that an effective solution can be found. We will all regret a mistake in this case.